

Solid Waste Advisory Committee

27 May 09
Meeting Notes

Present: Councilor Keith Nyhan, Chair, Councilors Bill Stetson and Liz Blanchard, Mike Russell, Terry Clarkson, Brian Phelps, Melanie Doiron, Paula Mattis, Arthur Aznive.

Staff: Chip Chesley, Bob McManus, Tom Aspell, Jim Howard, Karon Devold

Public: Elaine Kellerman, CCTV Staffers, Julianne Turner and Chris Reinhart.

Absent: Greg Banks, Matt Cashman, Councilors Robert Werner, Dick Lemieux & Fred Keach, Pat Winn

Review Minutes

The meeting convened at 4:30 by Councilor Nyhan. Minutes from May 5th and notes from May 20th were accepted once we had a quorum. Bill motioned to approve and Terry seconded the motion.

Solid Waste Proforma Review

Chip reported the negotiations for the solid waste contracts has been completed and that the Department has updated the solid waste proforma to reflect the current costs. The updated proforma will be submitted to City Council as part of their review of the Department's budget.

Bob McManus explained the solid waste contracted services. (see attached) The economy played a large part in the differences. While the outlook is good, Bob noted that the program has not yet started and recommended to maintain a conservative position. He reminded the committee that other cities that initiated PAYT exceeded revenue projections the first year, then saw huge drops the following year. Individuals reported that residents may have over purchased bags and also indicated that recycling increased dramatically.

Bob reported that the City has experienced a 9% decline in solid waste volumes over the past year.

Bob reported that we are not aware of containerized services with Pay as You Throw similar to Concord so it is difficult to provide a basis for how the solid waste volumes from these properties will respond. It was reported that property owners are taking great interest and want to participate. Sixty out of sixty two properties have responded positively to this proposal. The last two just have not given a definite answer.

Melanie spoke about closed landfills and indicated that bi-annual testing can be done on landfills that are not contaminated. Thinks the numbers should go down and not up. One landfill is "closed". Old Turnpike Landfill is on bi-annual testing.

Bob reported that the general Fund transfer has been reduced to \$1.755 million from \$1.9 million. The proforma also reflects the solid waste fund supporting an additional \$136,000 for spring weekly collection and every other week summer leaf collection.

Chip reported that Bestway indicated the cost of recycling could be reduced from \$100,000 to \$75,000. Bob noted that the savings would be realized by the solid waste fund. The savings would be reflected in the solid waste fund balance.

Councilor Blanchard inquired if we anticipated any illegal dumping. Staff responded that there are policies in place should this occur.

Bob McManus recommended the committee to review the porforma in 90 days, and again in 180 days.

Concord Community Television Program

Chris and Julienne presented a four minute video for PAYT that will start airing on June 1st. They said it is a "work in progress. Overall, the committee thought the video was well prepared. The video prompted questions and items that were incorrect. It was also noted that all the information for the video came from the city's website. The video talks about pounds with the bags and not gallons. It was suggested both numbers be represented. Also, it was noted that the video should indicate that the bags will be available for purchase on June 22nd at local vendors.

PAYT/Recycling Postcard

The final draft of the postcard was distributed. Post card will be approximately 4 x 6 in size. It was suggested to remove the graphics under the numbers 1-7 under plastic jugs & bottles. The committee also suggested to add "paper" to the shopping bags, as residents cannot place the paper items in plastic grocery bags. The committee would also prefer the graphics to show plastic bottles without lids, as bottle caps are NOT recyclable.

Concord Monitor – Insider

Chip and Keith have been interviewed by two reporters from the Insider for a story that should be in next week's paper. They requested they use the same graphics as Concord Community Television in order to make the presentation uniform.

Chip is also scheduling a radio show with Doris Ballard at the beginning of June.

Public Meetings

There are two more informational meetings at the Concord Library on June 2nd and June 16th from 6:30 – 8:00 PM.

Councilor Nyhan wants a separate email to council members of the communication plan to residents that the committee has and will provide.

Concord School District Coordination

Committee is hoping to reach out to Matt Cashman and get distribution to students prior to school closing. It was suggested that a PDF file be sent to him, but, there would be no guarantee that it would be printed and distributed.

Councilor Blanchard offered to take information to the grammar school in Penacook.

Downtown Solid Waste District

It was determined that the City cannot/should not charge the State for solid waste in the Downtown Solid Waste District. The committee needs to formally exempt the State from fees. "They don't pay...and we don't pick it up".

The DSWD was established in 1993. Still seems to be working...what fix it? Next step? Continue as is? Do we need to re-define? Three not paying....State, Church and Capital Commons. Chip sees it as only the church. If expanding the boundaries, do we want to re-zone to include Sanel Block. Committee looking to be contiguous. Chip was asked to contact Matt Walsh to make some subtle inquiries.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, June 16th at 4:15 PM at the COMF.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:40 PM.